FROM THE PAGES OF 52 AND COUNTDOWN COMES...

BLACK ADAM

6
OF 6
MAR '08

TOMASI
MAHNKE
ALAMY

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I WASTE NO TIME.

I HAVE THE LAST PIECE OF THE AMULET, AND DISTRACTIONS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

THE NEEDS OF THE ONE OUTWEIGH THE NEEDS OF THE MANY.

BLACK ADAM: THE DARK AGE

CONCLUSION

PETER J. TOMASI: STORY AND WORDS - DOUG MAHNKE: PENCILLER
CHRISTIAN ALAMY & RODNEY RAMOS: INKERS - NATHAN EYRING: COLORIST - ROB LEIGH: LETTERER
HARVEY RICHARDS: ASSISTANT EDITOR - MICHAEL SIGLAIN: EDITOR - COVER BY DOUG MAHNKE

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ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.

AND IT IS TIME TO DISSUADE THESE FOOLS OF HOPE.

A HOPE THEY HARBOR OF DESTROYING ME.

WHOOOM

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NO MATTER HOW MANY LEGIONS THEY CONTINUE TO SEND MY WAY...

SKOOM

...THEY WILL ALL MEET THE SAME IGNOBLE END.

BUT I DO HARBOR A HOPE OF MY OWN.

IF I PAINT ENOUGH OF THIS PLANET RED WITH THEIR BLOOD, THEY WILL LEAVE ME BE.

SKRAKOOM

OTHERWISE THEY WILL FORCE ME TO PAINT IT BLACK.

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FWAM FWAM FWAM

FWAM FWAM FWAM

ISIS' WORDS FILL MY EARS.

"LET THEM BE AND COME TO ME."

WISE ADVICE TO HEED.

WHUP WHUP WHUP

THEIR MEAT AND BONE CAN BE CRUSHED ANOTHER DAY.

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BLAM

Skaff...AND IF SOMEONE ASKS...IF YOU CAN KILL A GOD Skaff... YOU SAY YES...

I AM SHOT.

INCONCEIVABLE.

...I REPEAT, TARGET IS DOWN! LOCK ON *ETERNITY BULLET* SIGNATURE!

FIRE AT WILL WHEN IN RANGE!

SKRASH

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PENETRATED MY SKIN.

A HEAD SHOT WOULD SURELY HAVE KILLED ME.

THANK THE GOD SHAI FOR DEEMING THIS COLD, FORSAKEN PLACE UNFIT FOR MY FINAL BREATH.

THIS PROJECTILE MUST ALSO HAVE TRACKING PROPERTIES OF SOME KIND.

IF THEY INTEND ON FOLLOWING ME...

...THEY ARE SADLY MISTAKEN.

ETERNITY ROCK SIGNATURE CONFIRMED!

HE'S COMING UP TO--

BEEP BEEP BEEP

--THE SURFACE.

BEEP BEEP BEEP

SEEMS WE BOTH MISSED OUR TARGET AND TRACKING OPPORTUNITIES...

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...BUT THERE'S SOMETHING TO BE SAID SOMETIMES ABOUT A CONSOLATION PRIZE.

I HAVE TO ADMIT, I WISH I COULD HAVE SEEN THEIR FACES WHEN THAT SEAL BROKE THE SURFACE OF THE WATER WITH THE BULLET IN ITS BELLY.

KRAKOOM

I MUST CHANGE AGAIN BEFORE I DRAIN ISIS' BONES OF THEIR RESIDUAL POWERS.

IT IS NOW TIME FOR TETH-ADAM TO FINISH THE FINAL LEG OF THIS JOURNEY.

ISIS.

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ELSEWHERE.

...THE JLA AND JSA--THAT IS UNFORTUNATE.

I TAKE IT OUR CURRENT PROJECT HAS THEREFORE COME TO AN END, YES?

CAMP DAVID.

YOU ARE CORRECT, MISTER J.

DO WE HAVE YOUR ASSURANCE THAT THERE ARE NO LINKS TO OUR PARTICIPATION?

OF COURSE. ALL PRECAUTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

PURGE MEASURES HAVE BEEN INITIATED ON ALL FRONTS. YOU HAVE NO NEED FOR CONCERN.

I LOOK FORWARD TO ASSISTING YOU IN FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

GOOD DAY, SIR.

THREE DAYS LATER.

ANOTHER STOP.

EACH ONE HAS LASTED TWO HOURS.

WATER AND FOOD ARE A MUST.

FAWCETT CITY STATION

I WILL BYPASS THE TERMINAL AND--

FAWCETT CITY.

HOME OF THE MARVELS.

I DO BELIEVE SOME SIGHTSEEING IS IN ORDER.

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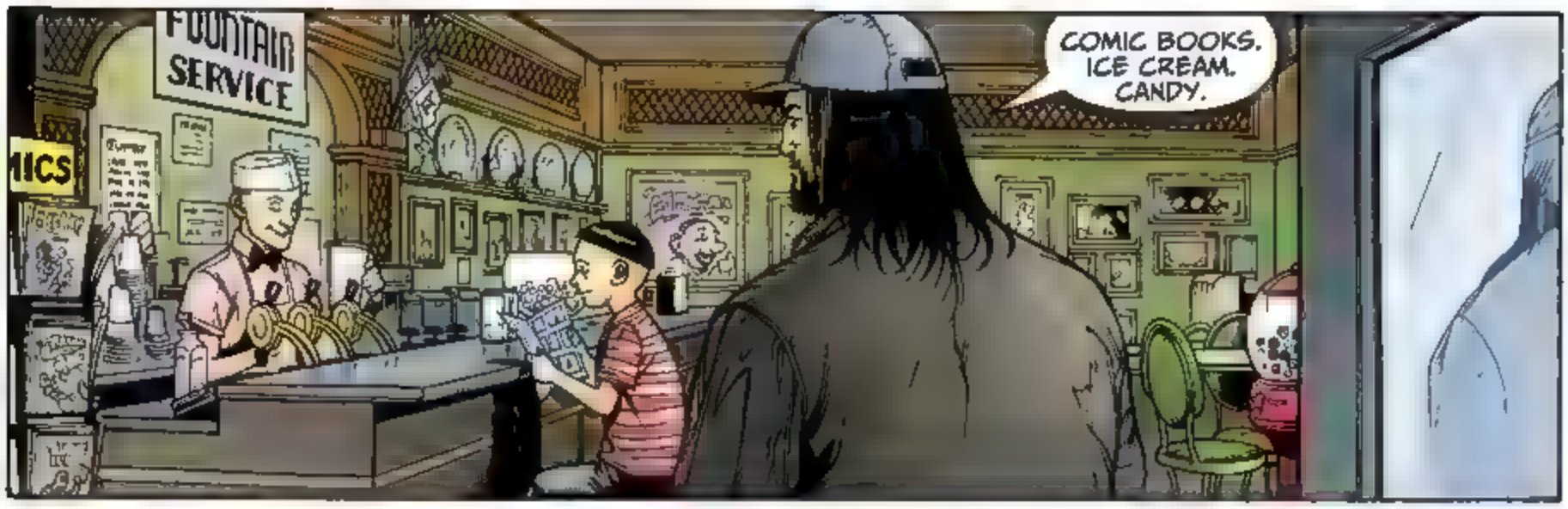
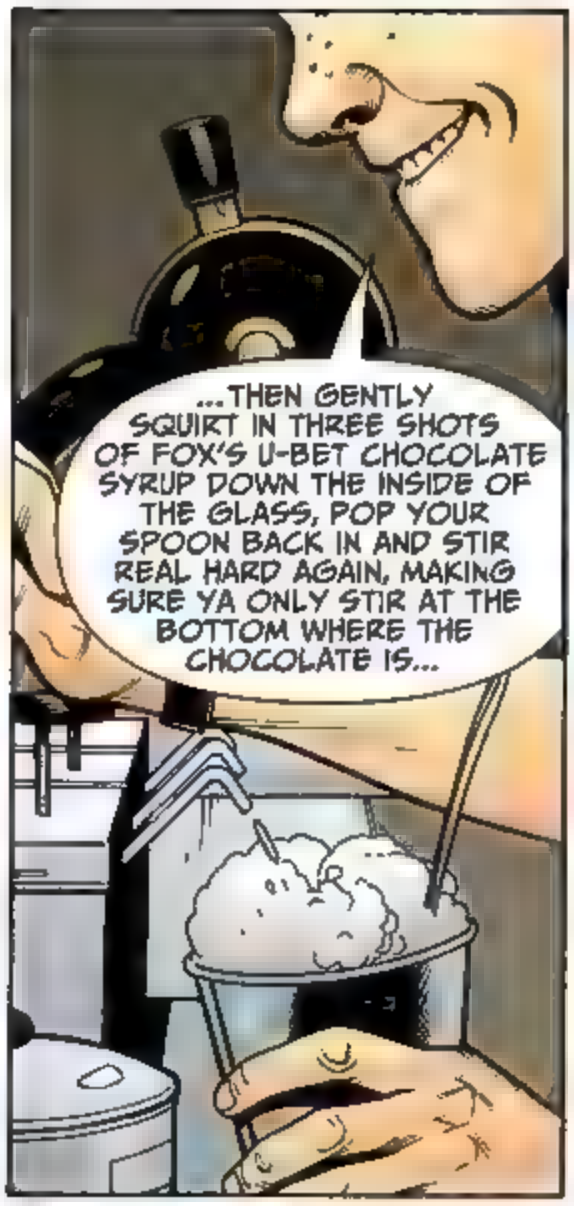


AFTERNOON. WHAT CAN I GET FOR YA, MISTER?
WHAT IS THAT CONCOCTION YOU ARE PREPARING FOR THE BOY?
A CHOCOLATE EGG CREAM.
AND WHAT IS THAT?

IMPORTED FROM BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, MY FRIEND. A REAL THIRST QUENCHER AND FULL A' FIZZ.
AND DESPITE ITS NAME, CONTAINS NEITHER EGGS NOR CREAM.
COMICS
ALREADY POURED ABOUT A HALF A CUP OF REALLY COLD MILK, AND NOW I'M ADDING SELTZER TO ABOUT AN INCH FROM THE TOP.


...THEN GENTLY SQUIRT IN THREE SHOTS OF FOX'S U-BET CHOCOLATE SYRUP DOWN THE INSIDE OF THE GLASS, POP YOUR SPOON BACK IN AND STIR REAL HARD AGAIN, MAKING SURE YA ONLY STIR AT THE BOTTOM WHERE THE CHOCOLATE IS...

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SO, WHAT WOULD YA LIKE?

PLEASE PREPARE ME ONE OF THESE...

...CHOCOLATE EGG CREAMS.

KA-BOOM

Ah, BILLY.

ALWAYS THE BOY.

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SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

THE TOWER OF DOCTOR FATE.

I AM BACK. LET US PROCEED.

A MASTER AT STATING THE OBVIOUS.

AND SEEING THAT YOU APPEAR IN ALL YOUR BLACK ADAM GLORY, ALSO A MASTER OF NOT LISTENING TO SIMPLE DIRECTIONS. OR DO YOU NOT CARE THAT EVERY SECOND YOU REMAIN AS BLACK ADAM YOU LEECH THE LIFE-FORCE FROM YOUR DARLING WIFE'S VERY BONES?

LISTEN, WORM, I HAVE ALL THE PIECES OF THE AMULET AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, I HAVE DISCOVERED *THE WORD* THAT MARVEL SOUGHT TO KEEP FROM ME.

I JEOPARDIZE NOTHING. I DRAW NO POWER FROM HER BONES ANY LONGER.

MY JOURNEY IS COMPLETE. GET ON WITH IT.

BRING MY LOVE BACK TO ME.

NOW.

YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, O FURIOUS ONE.

SHUT UP AND CONTINUE

THE AMULET PIECES--SHOW THEM TO ME.

GOOD, MY LITTLE AMULET DETECTOR WORKED WONDERS.

HOLD THEM TOGETHER WITH BOTH HANDS AND--

WAIT. THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE.

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MY, HAVEN'T YOU BEEN THE PRODUCTIVE HUSBAND?

YOU'VE EVEN GONE AND RETRIEVED HER RING FINGER.

I APPLAUD YOUR COMPLETE AND UTTER DEDICATION AND SENSE OF PURPOSE.

BRAVO, BLACK KNIGHT. BRAVO.

CLAP CLAP

NOW CALL DOWN THAT LIGHTNING OF YOURS SO WE CAN BOTH GET ON WITH OUR LIVES.

CHOCOLATE EGG CREAM.

KRAKOOM

IT WORKED.

OF COURSE IT WORKED.

CHOCOLATE EGG CREAM, INDEED.

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FROM THE MIND OF A CHILD. I WAS LUCKY TO HAVE STUMBLED ACROSS IT.

I CAN NOW CHANGE *THE WORD* BACK WHENEVER-- AND TO WHATEVER-- I CARE TO.

YES, MY HEART IS FILLED WITH SUCH JOY FOR YOU.

AS I DROP THE RE-FORMED AND REPOWERED AMULET INTO ISIS'S LIFE-FORCE SPHERE IT SHOULD SERVE AS A CATALYST AND RESURRECT HER IN BODY AND SPIRIT.

FWOOOM

IT IS TIME, MY DARLING.

RISE FROM THE DARKNESS AND JOIN ME ONCE AGAIN.

I NEED YOU MORE THAN I HAVE EVER NEEDED ANYTHING OR ANYONE.

UNNN

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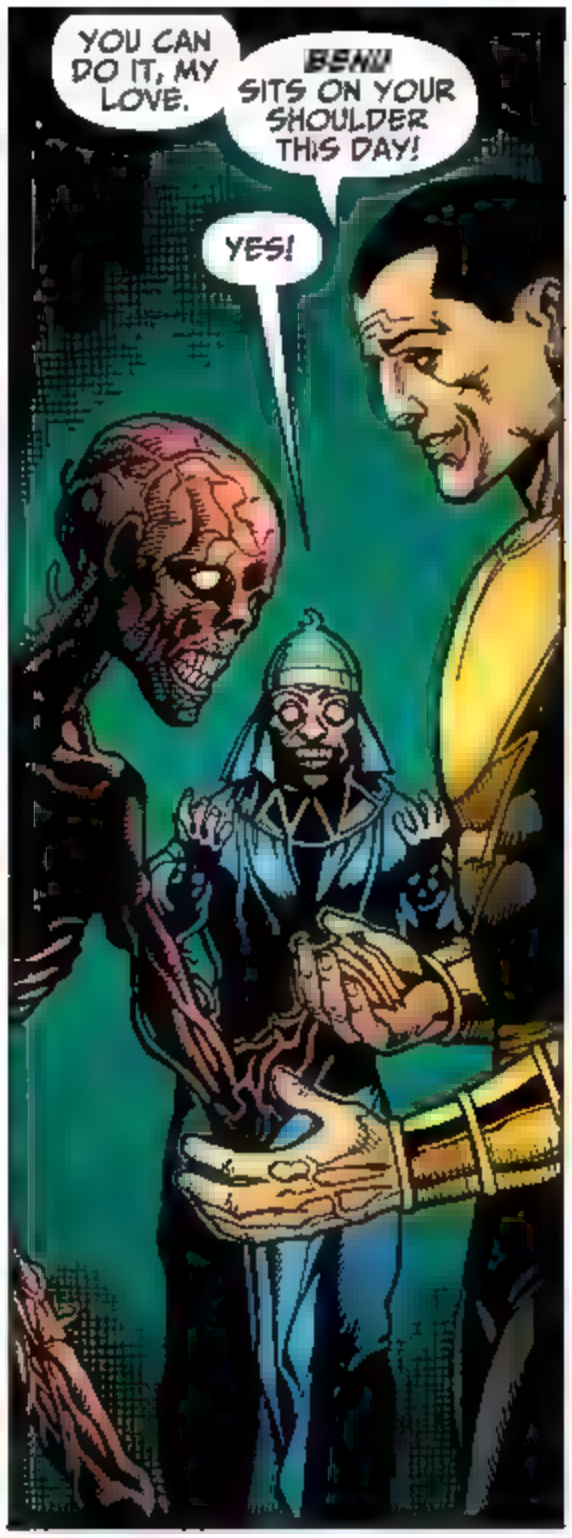

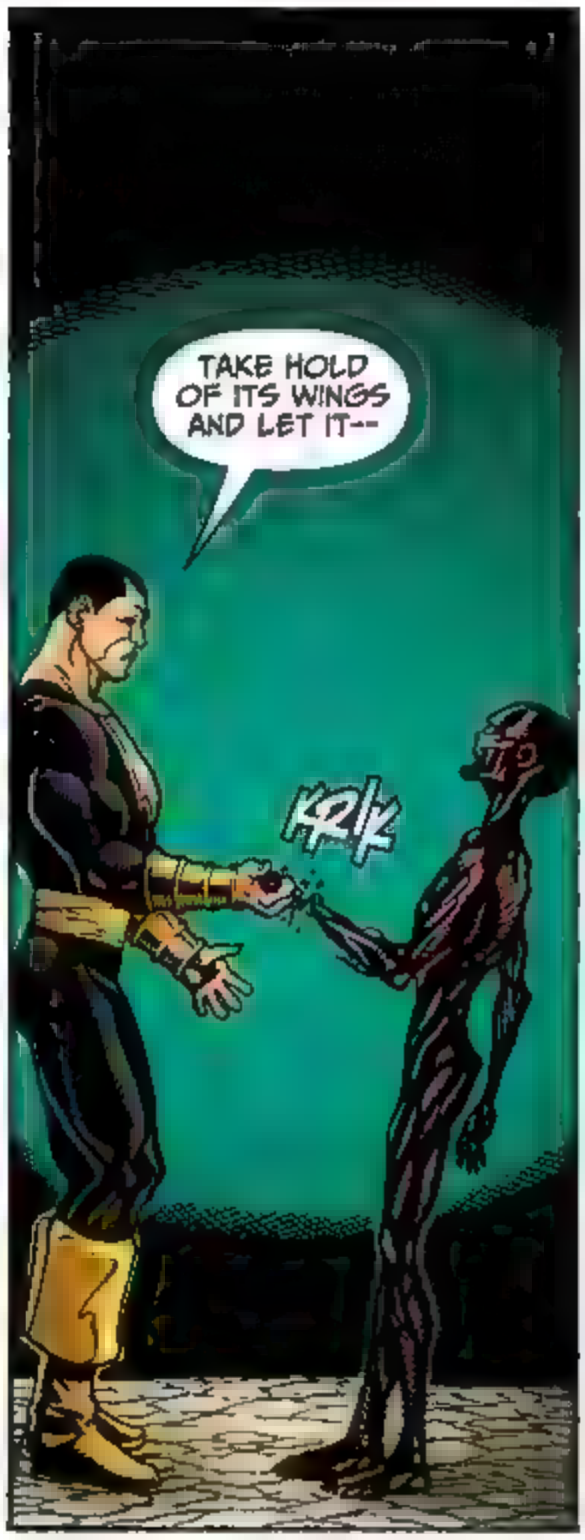

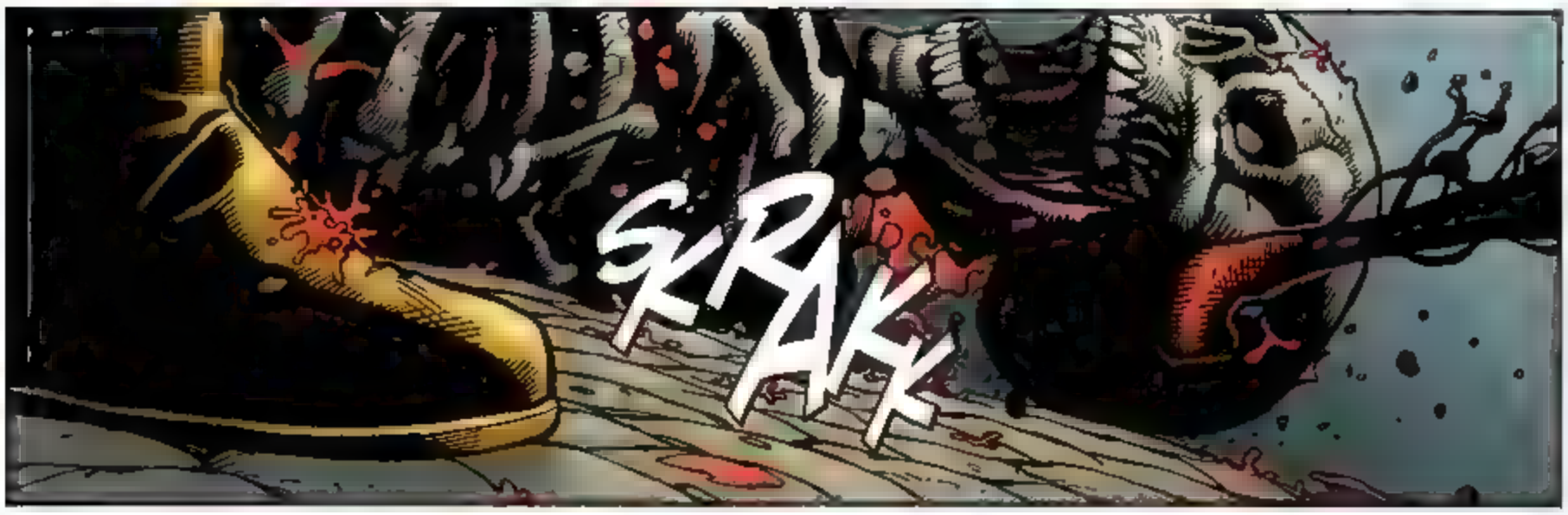

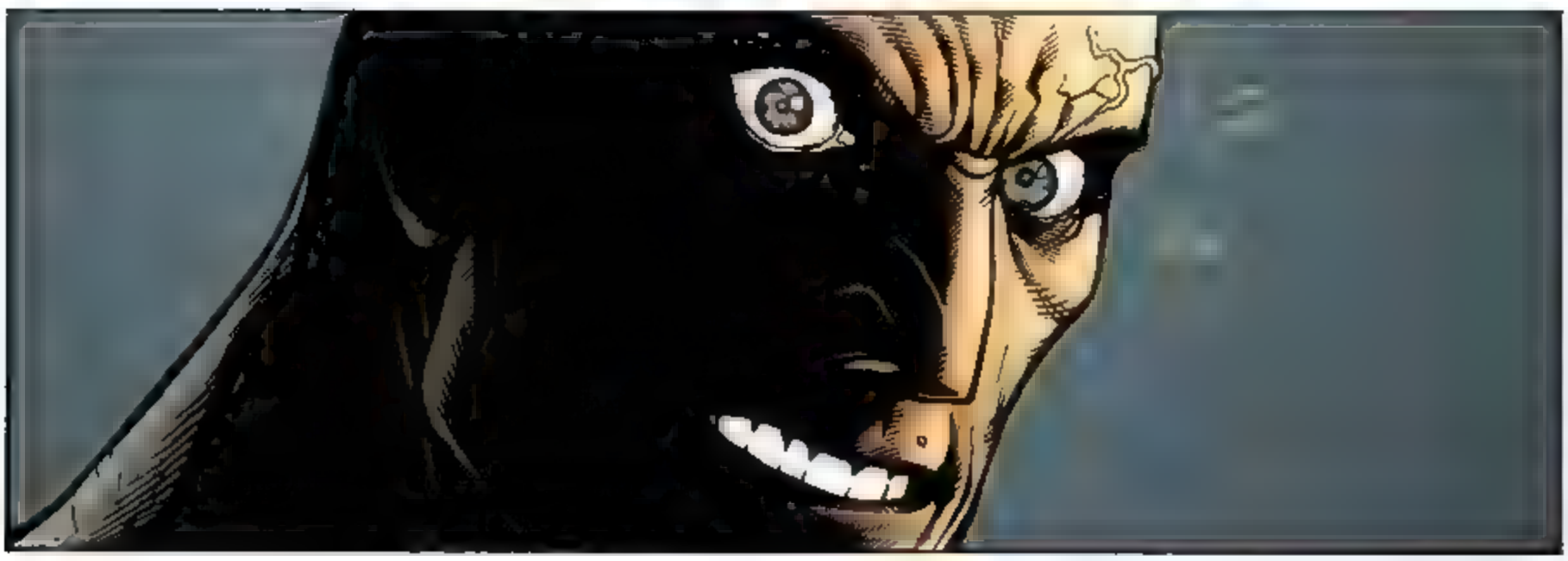

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NOOOOO!

YOU HELD OUT HER RESURRECTION AND YOU HAVE SNATCHED IT AWAY!

YOU WORTHLESS PIECE OF FILTH! YOU HAVE BROKEN THE PROMISE *YOU* MADE!

IF YOU THINK I INTEND TO HONOR *MY* PROMISE WITHOUT WALKING OUT OF HERE WITH ISIS ON MY ARM, YOU ARE SADLY MISTAKEN!

YOU DECEIVED ME, FAUST!

YOU WILL ROT HERE LIKE THE VERMIN YOU ARE UNTIL THE END OF TIME!

I HAVE BROKEN NOTHING!

IT IS *YOU* THAT HAS BROKEN A PROMISE--A PROMISE THAT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN MADE IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE WILL AND FORTITUDE TO SEE IT THROUGH!

I TOLD YOU THE REPERCUSSIONS OF CHANGING TO AND FRO--THIS IS YOUR FAULT, NOT MINE--KILL ME IF YOU WILL--BUT KNOW THIS AS YOU LEAVE THE TOWER, ADAM--

--YOU MURDERED HER WITH EACH BREATH YOU TOOK AS THE POWER OF BLACK ADAM COURSED THROUGH YOUR BODY--HER DEATH STAINS *YOUR* SOUL, NOT MINE!

SHUT YOUR VILE MOUTH!

FWAM

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YOU HAVE FAILED ME, MY PRINCE--OUR LOVE IS DEAD AND I AM DUST.

ISIS--MY LOVE FOR YOU BURNS-- I DID ALL THAT I COULD TO--

AND STILL IT WAS NOT ENOUGH. YOU HAVE FAILED ME, JUST AS YOU HAVE FAILED YOUR COUNTRY.

I RUE THE DAY WE EVER MET--ALL THIS HORROR, PAIN, AND DEATH--IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT ALL THIS BLOOD HAS SOAKED THE EARTH.

I CURSE YOU, ADAM.

NO.

I CURSE YOU FROM BEYOND FOREVERMORE.

NO. NO. NO.

NOOOOOO!

AN ACADEMY AWARD PERFORMANCE, DON'T YOU AGREE?

THANKS FOR FILLING IN, *MISTER DIBNY.*

IT WAS THE LEAST *YOU* COULD DO AFTER HELPING TO IMPRISON ME HERE.

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IT'S NICE WHEN IT ALL WORKS ACCORDING TO PLAN, *hmm?*

BEING SUCH A BIG BUNDLE OF EMOTION, I DIDN'T THINK OUR ENRAGED FRIEND WOULD BE ABLE TO TELL THE *DIFFERENCE* BETWEEN A FEMALE AND MALE SKELETON.

IT WAS A CALCULATED RISK, YES, BUT ONE THAT NEEDED TO BE TAKEN.

I WOULD RATHER HAVE DIED THAN REMAIN ENTOMBED HERE FOREVER, PRINCESS.

NOW, SHOW ME THE WAY HOME.

FAAGH

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE SLIGHT SPELL THAT KEEPS YOU A TAD SEDATED, BJT I'M SURE YOU WOULD AGREE THAT IT'S A NECESSITY AT THIS JUNCTURE.

PLEASE EXCUSE ME, I NEED TO BORROW THIS FOR A MOMENT.

IT'S OUR *KEY*, SO TO SPEAK.

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OUR KEY TO A BRIGHT AND FRUITFUL FRIENDSHIP.

NOW, PUT ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER, PRINCESS...

...AND SOON WE'LL BE WALKING OUT THE DOOR.

GOTHAM CITY.

SHAKOOM

MY TEARS ARE GONE.

MY LOVE IS DUST.

MY HEART IS BLACK.

MY SOUL IS EMPTY.

FLAGS.

EMBASSY ROW.

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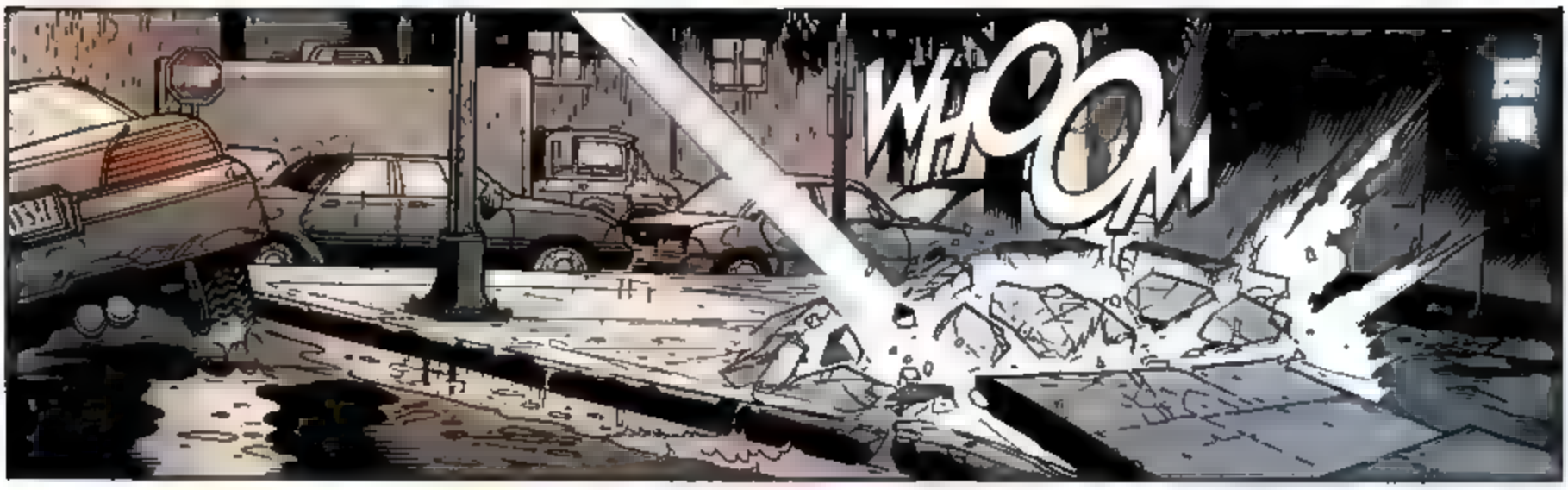
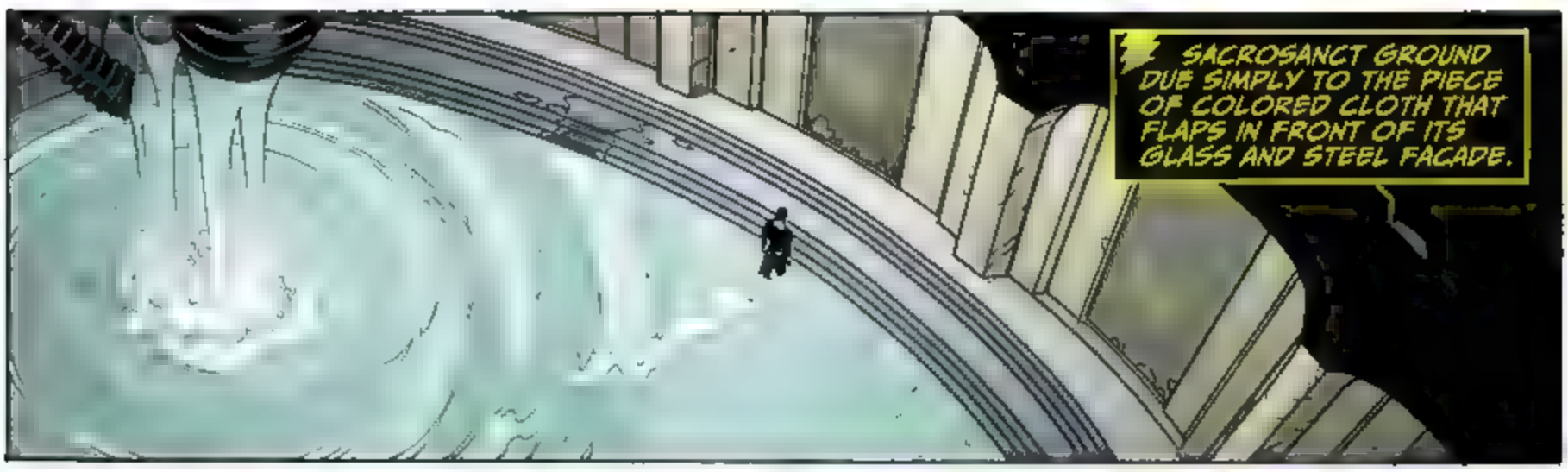
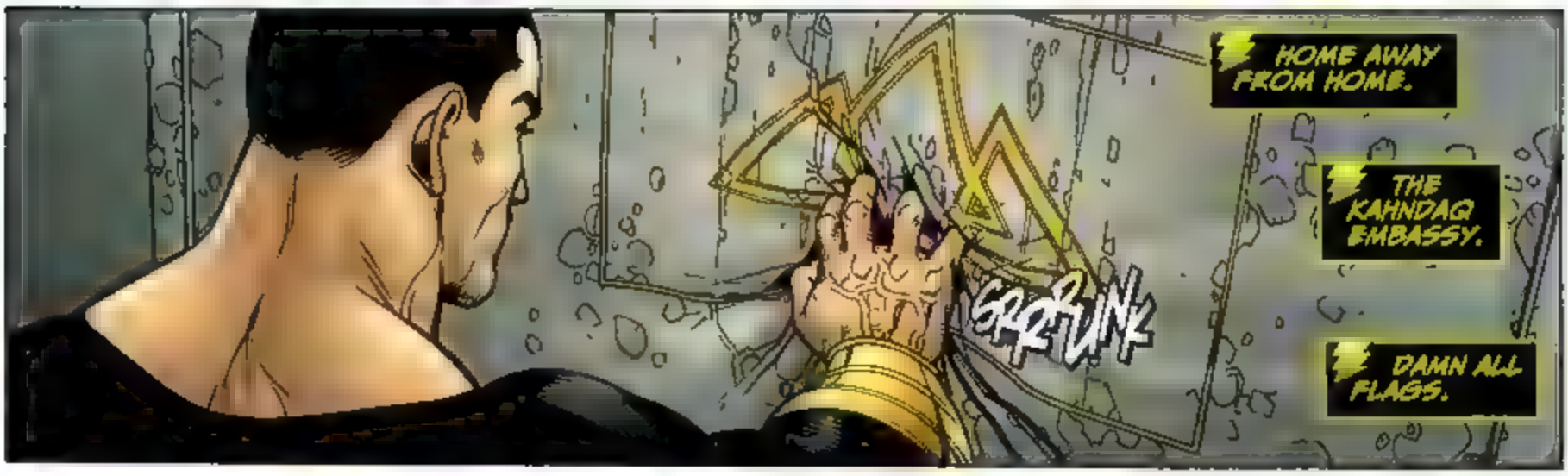


GOVERNMENT FOOLS ASSERT IN THEIR INANE PLATITUDES THAT EACH BUILDING RESTS ON A SMALL PIECE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRY.





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IT DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE.

I WILL NEVER AGAIN FEEL HER CHEEK AGAINST MINE.

OR THE STRANDS OF HER HAIR BRUSH ACROSS MY FACE AS WE FLY THROUGH THE SKY.

WHY?

SKRAK

WHY?

SKRAK

WHY?

SKRAK

WHY?!?

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DONATE